

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1374
By Brooks (Knox)

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Assistant Chief Deputy
Keith Lyon of the Knox County Sheriff's Office.

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their own concerns to ensure our collective freedom and personal safety, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, in providing for the domestic tranquility of the community as a whole, society recognizes the need for a system of laws; the enforcement of the law has been entrusted to a small number of dedicated individuals; and

WHEREAS, these individuals daily face the rigors of human conflict in protecting those whom they so selflessly serve; and

WHEREAS, the people of Tennessee are fortunate to be served by the brave and dedicated law enforcement officers who put their lives on the line while carrying out their essential duties; and

WHEREAS, Assistant Chief Deputy Keith Lyon of the Knox County Sheriff's Office was one such outstanding public servant, and the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of his tragic and untimely death on May 9, 2006; and

WHEREAS, a 1982 graduate of Oak Ridge High School, Chief Lyon served gallantly with the Knox County Sheriff's Office since joining the force in 1988, earning the respect and admiration of his fellow officers and the appreciation of a grateful public for his unsurpassed dedication and professionalism; and

WHEREAS, beginning his law enforcement career with the Knox County Sheriff's Office as a Correctional Officer, he rapidly rose through the ranks of the jail, first to Jail Sergeant in

1991, to Jail Lieutenant in 1993, and then to Jail Captain in 1995; in 1996, he was promoted to Assistant Chief Deputy of Administration, and then to Assistant Chief Deputy in 1997; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of the Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy in Donelson, Chief Lyon received his POST certification in December of 1990; and

WHEREAS, a brave and courageous officer, Chief Lyon served as Commander of the Hazardous Devices Team and was Commander of the first SORT (Special Operations Response Team) Team in 1991; and

WHEREAS, deeply respected and highly regarded by his colleagues and his community, Chief Keith Lyon was very appropriately honored on four occasions as Officer of the Month, twice in 1995, and twice in 2001, highlighting the exemplary job performance that distinguished him as a credit to his community and his profession; and

WHEREAS, Chief Keith Lyon also cared deeply for his fellow man and organized a relief effort following Hurricane Katrina, orchestrating a trip with eleven officers to the storm ravaged Gulf Coast region of Harrison County, Mississippi, during the first week of October; and

WHEREAS, utilizing their own vacation time for the trip and delivering three truckloads of donated building materials, Chief Lyon and his fellow officers made the long trip to Mississippi to help officers there who had lost their homes or had their homes damaged during Hurricane Katrina; and

WHEREAS, Assistant Chief Deputy Keith Lyon was also deeply committed to, devoted to, and inspired by his love of Christ and his loving family, and dedicated his off-duty hours to his family and his church; and

WHEREAS, Keith Lyon enjoyed the loving companionship of his beloved wife Carla, and was the dutiful son of Gale Lyon, a Chaplain with the Knox County Sheriff's Office Chaplains Corp, and devoted brother of Bernie Lyon, a Captain in the Narcotics Division, and Leland Lyon, also a member of the Sheriff's Office Chaplains Corp; and

WHEREAS, Chief Lyon leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity, probity, and valor in his public life as a law enforcement officer, compassion and loyalty in private life, and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that this General Assembly should join all Tennesseans in remembering the bountiful life of this courageous officer, dutiful public servant, and exceptional human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Assistant Chief Deputy Keith Lyon, an exceptional officer, recalling his impeccable character, unquestionable valor, and stalwart commitment to living an exemplary life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Chief Keith Lyon.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.